

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Prior to the amendments presented herewith, claims 8-17, 19, 22-25, 27, 38, 52-54, 56 and 111-114 were pending. Claims 38 and 112-114 are being amended. Claims 8-14, 16 and 17 are being cancelled. Accordingly, after the present amendments have been entered, claims 15, 19, 22-25, 27, 38, 52-54, 56 and 111-114 will be pending.

Claims 38 and 112-114 are being amended to incorporate the features of substituents Z and R_m from claims 9 and 13, respectively. Claim 114 is also being amended to incorporate the features of substituents R₂ from claim 24. No new matter is being added by these amendments.

CONCLUSION

Applicants earnestly believe that they are entitled to a letters patent, and respectfully solicit the Examiner to expedite prosecution of this patent application to issuance. Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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